Implementing the Recommendations of Committee on Anganwadi workers

717. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 262 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th December, 2006 and state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted to examine the current levels of honorarium and related issues of Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) the action taken by Government to implement those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a)to (c)The Review Committee, constituted to examine the current levels of honorarium and related issues of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers, has submitted its report and the same is under the consideration of the Government.

Problems of AWCs

718. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government's Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is in a very bad shape given the fact that as many as 5,681 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) are functioning in open space in 19 States across the country, since they have neither pucca nor kutcha buildings;

(b) whether approximately two lakh AWCs in the country have no facility for drinking water;

(c) whether the National Council for Applied Economic Research, which carried a survey for Government on the ICDS scheme has found that a staggering 10,000 AWCs are functioning from kutcha building; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps Government is considering to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) There are 863472 operational anganwadi centres out of 1052638 sanctioned Anganwadi centres in the country as on 30.6.2007. As per reports received from 22 States for 421758 AWCs, 6155 AWCs are functioning in open space. In the reporting 22 States, 149031 AWCs have drinking water facilities (Handpumps, Tap-water supply, Storage tank/Pit/others) out of 421758 AWCs.

(c) According to a study titled 'Rapid Facility Survey of Infrastructure at Anganwadi Centres' conducted by the Ministry through National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi during 2004-05,46% AWCs are running from pucca building, 21% AWCs from semi-pucca buildings; 15% from kutcha buildings; 9% in open space and 6% from other places; about 9% were running from the house of AWWs and 6.91% from Helper's house. It was also found that 46% of AWCs did not have toilet facilities & 27% lacked drinking water facilities. The survey covered a total of 287,684 AWCs in the country.